1   **System and Method for Automatic**
                  Population of Instant Messenger Lists

ABSTRACT

        A system and method that automatically adds contacts
5   to a user's instant messaging buddy list is provided. The
contacts are added based upon existing database (i.e.,
directory) information as well as meeting information
extracted from the user's calendar. The list of calendar
contacts is included with the user's calendar. This list
10 is used to automatically populate the user's buddy list.
In one embodiment, a buddy list "group" is initialized for
calendar entries. Contacts are also added to a user's
buddy list through database queries. The group of contacts
resulting from the query are then added to the user's buddy
15 list. Contacts added to the user's buddy list through the
user's calendar or through database queries can be made
permanent or temporary. Temporary contacts are
automatically removed after a specified period of time.